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CHARLES STILLMAN

1810–1875

Charles Stillman and Elizabeth Pamela Stillman in 1849

CHARLES STILLMAN

1810-1875

PRINTED FOR

Chauncey Devereux Stillman

NEW YORK, 1956

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FOREWORD

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BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, *deserves the credit for initiating this book, because it was in that city, founded by Charles Stillman, that interest in his career was recently revived and thence communicated to his descendants. In March* 1955, *ten great-grandchildren, a number of their husbands and wives, and a great-great-grandson travelled to Brownsville at the invitation of Mayor Herbert L. Stokely, to commemorate the founder at the unveiling of portraits of him and his wife in Stillman Town Hall. These portraits, now owned by the Brownsville Historical Association, were painted in* 1954 *by Mr. Adrian Lamb after the two daguerreotypes that are reproduced as frontispiece to this book, and that are thought to have been made at about the time of the subjects' marriage. During our visit, several Brownsville people asked me for a written account of the city's founder, and the following biographical sketch is the result. The necessary research was done, and the original draft written, by Mr. H. Minot Pitman, who travelled extensively to consult the source material, most of which has not hitherto been printed.*

The material contained in the three appendices, which are included mainly for the interest of the family, was also collected and checked by Mr. Pitman. His task was alleviated by researches into Stillman and Goodrich ancestry that had already been done by Mrs. W. Lovering Holman. Both Mr. Pitman and Mrs. Holman are Fellows of the American Society of Genealogists.

We are, furthermore, indebted to Mrs. George H. Bowman, Jr. (whose husband is a great-grandnephew of Charles Stillman) for generously sharing a number of her genealogical findings.

Judge and Mrs. Harbert Davenport have been unstintingly helpful in providing facts and clues to information in Texas. Mrs. Davenport, Vice President of the Brownsville Historical Association, supplied the picture of Charles Stillman's Brownsville house and copies of letters from Charles Stillman to Robert King, belonging to Captain King's descendants, with kind permission to quote therefrom.

The degree of cooperation on the part of my first cousins in supplying the data on their immediate families and descendants, is reflected in Appendix Two.

The portrait known as "The Two Sisters," reproduced facing page 38 was bequeathed by the subjects to the Brooklyn Museum, which courteously permits this reproduction. The other illustrations are made from portraits, daguerreotypes, and photographs belonging to me or my sister, Mrs. Langbourne Meade Williams. It is to her, and to her husband, that I owe the greatest gratitude for their unfailing encouragement, help, and advice in this undertaking.

C.D.S.

New York, May, 1956

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CHARLES STILLMAN

1810–1875

CHARLES STILLMAN

CHARLES STILLMAN was born at Wethersfield, Connecticut, on November 4, 1810, of parents whose families had been identified with the town from its beginning. He was fifth in descent from the immigrant, George Stillman, who had come to Wethersfield in 1705 by way of Hadley, where he had first settled in 1686. George Stillman, born about 1654, was a man of education, means, and gentle birth. He was always referred to as 'Mr.' in the town records of Hadley and Wethersfield, a distinction of honor in seventeenth century New England. The date of his emigration, his associates in the colonies, and the lack of record of his home in England, give rise to the conjecture that the cause of his emigration was involvement in regicide activity, a not uncommon reason at that particular time.

Wethersfield, the first settlement on the Connecticut River, was founded in 1634 or 1635 by a 'pioneer company' from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The largest holder of "adventurers' land" in the settlement was Mr. Nathaniel Foote, whose grand-daughter, Rebecca Smith, became the second wife of George Stillman. It was from this second marriage that Charles Stillman descended.

Charles' father, Francis Stillman of Wethersfield, was a ship owner who traded with the Gulf ports of Mobile and New Orleans and thence to the interior of Mexico. (In

contemporary documents, both Francis and Charles Stillman are referred to as 'Captain' but it is probable that the term indicated merely a ship owner, since there is no evidence that either was a ship's master.)

Though stricken and disfigured by change, ancient Wethersfield, four miles south of Hartford on the Connecticut River, even today retains much flavor of her colonial past. There is a noble-spired brick Congregational meeting-house completed in 1764 in which two Stillmans were original pew-holders. Exploring the adjacent graveyard, and the by-streets near the river bank, one finds many of the graves and old houses marked with the names of Stillmans and the families with which they intermarried.

Charles Stillman spent his boyhood in this quiet town. His education probably did not extend to the equivalent of today's high school as he left home at the age of sixteen, to return only on visits. One infers that he studied arithmetic harder than he did spelling, because his accounts in later life were meticulously kept, while his spelling and punctuation were careless even for the time. His handwriting was beautiful as we can see from the copious business and personal letters that are extant.

He was sixteen years of age when he shipped out on one of his father's vessels, for on March 25th, 1855, he wrote his wife that he had been absent from Wethersfield for twenty-eight years. At seventeen, as he says, he was in charge of a store of goods in Durango, Mexico, well inland on the slopes of the Sierra Madre range. There he started to learn the Spanish language and the Mexican customs that were to serve him so well the rest of his life. In February 1828, when he was a few months over seventeen, he arrived at Brazos de Santiago (now in Texas), which was the salt

water harbor for the Mexican town of Matamoros, twenty-five miles up the Rio Grande, a town inaccessible to sailing vessels on account of the shallowness of the river. Tradition has it that he was the supercargo on his father's schooner *Albion*, sailing from New Orleans, which also carried his father, Francis, and that he was left alone at Matamoros to dispose of the *Albion's* cargo which he did successfully. As in many traditions, facts have become blurred: the *Albion* did arrive at Brazos de Santiago on February 2nd, 1828. She was not owned by Francis Stillman but was consigned to him as agent. This vessel was wrecked, as so many others were, on the dangerous bar at the entrance to Brazos de Santiago in December 1828, probably on a return voyage there, Francis Stillman still being agent for the owners. Charles was surely not left to dispose of the February cargo alone. It is probable that his father remained and it is certain that Daniel Willard Smith was on hand to help the young man. Smith, the United States Consul at Matamoros, was a partner of Francis Stillman in the firm of Smith & Stillman until the latter's death from fever in New York City, August 21st, 1838.

Smith, who was also a native of Connecticut and perhaps of Wethersfield, had already been consul for some years. He was a fortunate selection, appointed by President Monroe at the request of thirty-four New Orleans firms engaged in shipping at Refugio, the original name of Matamoros. He was "well versed in the peculiarities of the trade and skillful in coping with the idiosyncrasies of the Mexican bureaucracy"acccording to Graf.

Matamoros in 1828 was a fast-growing Mexican town some twenty-five miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico, goods being shipped to or from New Orleans where they

were reshipped to or from the Mississippi Valley, New York or Europe. By August 1832 there were three hundred foreign residents in Matamoros, most of them citizens of the United States. The principal exports were wool, hide, and specie, all handled by Smith & Stillman who also imported into Matamoros lumber from Mobile, and the great variety of merchandise dealt in by any general store of the times on the frontier. Part, if not all, of the time from 1828 to 1833, Francis Stillman, like his son Charles, was a resident of Matamoros. In 1833 Francis owned the forty-seven ton schooner *Glide*, sailing regularly between New Orleans and Matamoros. On the death in 1838 of Francis Stillman, Charles Stillman continued as a merchant under his own name and as partner of others.

At Matamoros he remained throughout the turbulent years marked by the founding of the Republic of Texas, and through the war between Mexico and the United States, 1846–1848, which resulted in the establishment of the Rio Grande as the boundary line between the two nations. In 1848 there were twelve men in Matamoros who claimed protection from the United States. Most of them, including Charles Stillman, were listed as merchants. J. P. Schatzell, then the United States Consul, testified before the United States–Mexican Claims Commission that Stillman's annual business amounted to from seventy-five to eighty thousand dollars, double that of any other merchant except Schatzell, who claimed for himself an annual business of from two hundred to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

In March 1846, the Army of the Rio Grande, commanded by General Zachary Taylor, moved to a point on the north side of the Rio Grande opposite Matamoros and erected there a crude post, first called Fort Texas. The fort was

soon renamed Fort Brown, after Major Jacob Brown, who had died gallantly in its defense on May 9th, commanding a small garrison against the Mexicans. In April, following Major Brown's death, the Mexican General, Pedro de Ampudia, who had just arrived at Matamoros, gave citizens of the United States forty-eight hours to remove from the town to Victoria, farther up river, escorted by a detachment of Mexican soldiers. They were all forbidden to cross to the Texan side of the river. Charles Stillman alone succeeded in escaping from the deported band and went into hiding in the woods, probably helped by his earlier friendly relations with the local Mexicans. Five weeks later when the Americans occupied Matamoros he returned there to look after his property. During that interval, however, the properties had been left unguarded and Stillman had suffered larger losses than anyone else except Schatzell, the United States Consul, amounting, according to the claim made by Charles Stillman, to $17,650.

Don Carlos, as Charles was called in Mexico, conducted his affairs with intelligence and with great honesty, according to the standards of the time. He did not balk at bribing the Mexican officials, a recognized practice without which no business could succeed. He was respected, trusted and obeyed by all who came into contact with him. He dealt liberally, fairly, and firmly with the Mexicans and native Indians, winning their confidence and loyalty. The story is told that an Indian tribe, whom he allowed to occupy his waste lands for grazing, elected him their chief on the death of their Indian chieftain.

In January 1847 Stillman was in partnership with John Young under the style of Stillman & Young. They had a store in Matamoros on Rosales Street. On May 31, 1859,

Stillman wrote "we buried John Young last week. I am now the oldest foreign resident on the frontier." He was only forty-eight on that date so he was undoubtedly referring to length of residence. Beginning in September of 1847 Charles was doing business under the firm name of Messrs. Chas. Stillman & Bro. The brother was Frank D. Stillman, who in 1851 went north to Bridgeport, Connecticut, taking with him $25,000 as his share of the profit for three years. His interest in the firm continued for a few years thereafter.

The founding of Brownsville

At the close of the Mexican War in 1848, Stillman anticipated the importance of the site opposite Matamoros. At this spot Fort Brown was located, upon a low bluff which was menaced when the river flooded. For some years he had had ferry rights across the Rio Grande at this point where the river was two hundred yards wide. He foresaw that a town would soon be established here and he took steps to insure that he would profit by the expected land boom. In 1848 he commissioned George Lyons, the deputy surveyor of Nueces County in which Fort Brown lay—soon to become Cameron County—to survey a town site of 4,676 acres and lay out town lots immediately adjacent to Fort Brown.

Charles Stillman chose the name Brownsville. Some of the streets he named for presidents of the United States: St. Francis Street he named for his father, St. Charles Street for himself and Elizabeth Street for his bride-to-be. As the town grew, the latter street became the main street of Brownsville. The site on the north side of the Rio Grande was of importance because of the possession by Texas of the harbor of Brazos de Santiago from which a road ran

Charles Stillman's House in Brownsville, Texas, today

Elizabeth Street in Brownsville, Texas, from a wood engraving in Harper's Weekly, in 1865

up the north bank of the river to Brownsville. In 1848 on the site of Brownsville there were but two houses, little more than shanties. Two years later there were four thousand inhabitants, in the estimation of Colonel John S. Ford. By 1859 this population had dwindled to two thousand of which all but five hundred were of Mexican origin. Of this five hundred, the Europeans numbered two hundred, and three hundred were native born or naturalized citizens of the United States, of whom less than one hundred were men and only thirty had families to protect.

Two other town sites on the Texas side had been started previous to Brownsville. These were at Mansfield and Freeport but they failed to become the important shipping points that their founders had hoped they would be. Brownsville's success was due to its closeness to Fort Brown from which it gained protection and the monies that the government necessarily spent for supplies. Stillman's interest in the town contributed largely to its success, since he was a capable business man familiar with the Valley and one in whom there was universal confidence. His reputation and credit were placed squarely behind the town site.

On December 9th, 1848, he entered into a written agreement of partnership forming the Brownsville Town Company with Samuel A. Belden, a prosperous merchant of Matamoros, and Jacob Mussina, brother of Simon Mussina who edited *The American Flag*, a Matamoros newspaper that soon removed to Brownsville. Charles Stillman was allotted a one-half interest in the Town Company and Samuel A. Belden and Jacob Mussina each had a one-fourth interest. In December 1848, *The American Flag* says of Brownsville, "Fine brick buildings are springing up. Mr. Charles Stillman has just completed his large and commodious brick

store—a building that would be a credit to any town. Mr. Belden has commenced putting up a fine brick store house also, as also Mr. J. E. Carey & Co. Wooden houses in numbers also being erected. The town appears lively. The health of the place is good."

For all the next year Brownsville was a booming town. Lots sold actively at over three hundred dollars apiece. The boom was risky as the Brownsville Town Company sold on easy payment terms, and because in January 1849 the title under which the partnership was selling lots was seriously challenged by litigation begun in the Texan Courts by Mexican claimants to the land.

In January 1850 Stillman and Belden publicly notified Mussina that his business with them had ceased as he was not contributing his share of the expenses and had given nothing to the enterprise. The disputes and disagreements in connection with the termination of Mussina's part in the partnership led to a law suit which plagued Stillman and Belden for many years thereafter. In 1862 Stillman wrote that the suit had been settled costing him $85,000 and attorneys' fees of $30,000, all of which was paid in 1864. However, he could have had no difficulty in providing funds for this settlement for, writes Colonel Ford in his memoirs, in 1850 Charles Stillman was a millionaire, and that he always kept his own counsel. (This last statement is supported by Stillman himself who wrote his wife March 5, 1859, when accused of being influenced by Emily, the widow of his nephew Frank S. North, "He ought to have known that the influence of all the women between heaven and hell would not influence me to a dishonorable act—absurd—consult her in business—was I ever known to consult man, woman or beast in my affairs.")

Meanwhile by the end of 1849 the boom had ceased as people apparently had no confidence in Basse & Hurd to whom the title to the townsite had been conveyed, and the fact that in April one half the population of Brownsville died of cholera had much to do with the discouragement of the settlers. Other factors entering into the collapse of Brownsville's first boom were a commercial depression and the removal of many small traders who, for lack of capital, were unfitted for the requirements of trade with northern Mexico. These went elsewhere, many to try their luck in the California gold fields. Charles Stillman was not one of these. His many interests continued to expand. In 1849 many gold seekers, bound for California, passed through Brownsville, arriving by ship and going overland only seven hundred and fifty miles to the Pacific and thence north to the gold fields. In 1850 the newly incorporated City of Brownsville assumed title to the lots on the townsite and constituted another threat to the title conveyances of the Brownsville Town Company, but in the end the Cavazos title prevailed and Stillman and his partner Belden were justified in their purchase of that claim.

Marriage

In June or July of 1849, Charles Stillman went north to escape the heat of a Brownsville summer and to visit his mother in Wethersfield. There on August 17th, 1849, he married Elizabeth Pamela Goodrich, who was born in Wethersfield August 27th, 1828, the daughter of Joshua and Clarissa (Francis) Goodrich. Elizabeth Goodrich had been educated in Virginia where she spent much of her girlhood; indeed throughout her life, and despite the war, she maintained a warm friendship with a number of Virginians.

In Virginia she had joined the Episcopal Church, to the consternation of her Calvinistic stepmother. At the time of her marriage she was just short of twenty-one and her husband was thirty-eight, not a great disparity of ages for those days. Although of similar backgrounds, indeed they were many times interrelated, Charles and Elizabeth Stillman were markedly dissimilar. Charles was a serious, stern man with a sardonic sense of humor. In the winter of 1854 he wrote her, "Your daguerreotype is very good I think you must have paid the feller something extry to have him flatter you a little," and again, "I shall I fear become an advocate of Husbands duplicating their wives. Merchants always duplicate their invoices of goods when successfull, with such alterations as may be necessary and I don't see but the rule would work well respecting wives."

He was frugal and abstemious in his habits, almost ascetic, and he had little sympathy for his wife's light-hearted gaiety and open-handedness. He wrote, "I scratch you these hasty lines though I wish you to know that I seldom abandon my business to gratify my feelings." And, "I deem it advisable to have system in everything, it tends to regulate our expenses habits &c from my youth I have kept a account of my personal expenses and I believe reference to this memorandum has kept me from many foolish expenditures." In August 1853 he wrote his wife, "if we should have war with Mexico I fear the inducement to see the fun will prevent me from seeing you for some time, see that I get the Sharpe Rifle the use of which may be more needful than I anticipated." In September of that year he wrote, "A Merchant never ought to allow danger to prevent him from executing his mission." When his wife urged him not to go to New Orleans during the cholera epidemic there, he wrote, "it is

not very creditable to leave your post in time of danger and I am rather too old to adopt new customs." The grimness of his Puritan background is often reflected: "I much doubt if the pleasures of the North will afford me the same satisfaction as superintending my affairs here. Good living and gay amusements has not been my education." Elizabeth Goodrich, in contrast, at the time of her marriage was young and gay, with no notion how to take care of money. She was also religious, gentle, kind-hearted in the extreme; from every account a woman of the utmost charm and distinction who inspired admiration, affection and veneration throughout her life.

Charles and Elizabeth had evidently been engaged for at least a year as when Brownsville was laid out by him in 1848 he had named a street there 'Elizabeth'. Shortly after their marriage they sailed from New York on a schooner to Brownsville and there they made their home in the brick house with sturdy-columned portico still standing at 13th and East Washington Streets, which he had built for her and which was considered a mansion in its day. Here was born their eldest son, James (Jewett) Stillman, June 9th, 1850, named for a New York partner and close friend of Charles. He was the only one of six children to marry. His sister, Isabel Goodrich Stillman, was also born in Brownsville, September 22nd, 1852. Both were baptized in the Stillman house June 2nd, 1853, by the Rector of the charming little Episcopal Church of the Advent, which their parents had been instrumental in founding.

Between the births of his two eldest children, in the fall of 1851, Charles Stillman wrote his friend James Jewett, "Dear Jim—I intend next spring to take my family North and purchase a snug residence for them probably in Cleve-

land—I may retire altogether from business in the spring, it is hard, however, for one who has always been occupied to change his habits." This he was not to do for another fifteen years, his business always seemingly demanding his time and close attention. Although he toyed with the idea of a home in Cleveland where his brother Chauncey lived, and wrote several letters to his brother about the purchase of a house there, he eventually gave it up on account of the reported rigors of the winters.

Business Ventures

Early in June 1853 Elizabeth Stillman, to safeguard the health of her two infant children, left Brownsville in a vessel referred to as 'the yacht' for New Orleans and the North, accompanied by two maids and escorted by Frank S. North, her husband's nephew. She was never to return to Brownsville and thereafter until 1866 saw her husband only when he came North in the summers. (The baptisms of two more children were later recorded at the Church of the Advent, but the infants could not have been in Brownsville at the recorded dates because at those times Stillman was writing to his wife in the North.) After a few days in New Orleans, on June 22nd, Elizabeth and her party went up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers in steamboats, reaching Cincinnati on June 26th and from there taking the 'Lightning Express' to Cleveland, an all day journey. They stayed in Cleveland with the Chauncey Stillmans and left on July 5th for Buffalo by boat, whence they took 'the cars' to New York. After a few days, which she describes gaily as spent mostly in shopping there, she reached Wethersfield on July 20th and remained there until October 9th when she went to live in

Hartford with her sister-in-law, Elizabeth Sophia (Stillman) Case, who had leased a house there.

Charles Stillman remained in the South, conducting his business with growing success. He had a variety of partnerships usually lasting for one venture, or for a year or two when they might or might not be renewed. An instance of this is his indenture with John Vale of Roma, Texas, on the upper Rio Grande in 1852. It provided that Stillman as an importing merchant should send to Vale as the interior merchant all necessary merchandise 'at first cost price' which probably meant the cost of the goods at New Orleans plus the cost of transportation to Brownsville, and Vale agreed to store and sell the wares without storage charges and to "use and employ all diligence and discretion in his power in selling, bartering, buying or disposing of the merchandise for the common interest of both parties." All expenses of the partnership were first paid out of the receipts for the stock. All cash or bartered proceeds such as wool, hides, etc. which were received in the interior in trade, were to be sent to Brownsville where Stillman disposed of them to best advantage. Profits were divided equally between the two. The bulk of the imported articles came from New Orleans although goods from Europe, transshipped from New York, continually increased in amount and value on the invoices. Most of the merchandise from New York came in Stillman's own schooners, while that from New Orleans was usually by way of Morgan line steamers which ran about once a week and carried the mail.

In July 1851 Charles wrote his brother Chauncey Stillman in Cleveland, that he, Charles, was President of a silver mine, the Jesus Maria Vallecille, with a capital of $4,000,-

000, the shares having a face value of $1,000 each. The next year they struck a very rich vein and Charles put $30,000 more in the mine. Later the shares were traded on in New York.

A local figure of the time was General José Maria Caravajal, a Mexican, reared and educated in Kentucky, who had raised a band of filibusters, mostly North Americans, which for years had raided the frontier towns on the Rio Grande, calling himself the 'Liberator'. In 1851 Caravajal entered into an understanding with many of the merchants in Brownsville, agreeing that if they would support him financially he would help them to evade the impossibly restrictive trade regulations imposed by the Mexican government, which made smuggling into Mexico or bribery of the Mexican Customs officials the general rule. A list of Texans backing Caravajal was rumored to include Samuel A. Belden, Charles Stillman and their lawyers, Basse and Hurd. Caravajal's tactics forced the Mexican authorities at Matamoros to lower the tariffs very substantially and the Mexican town was soon flooded with goods from the Texan side. Having achieved their ends, the merchants lost interest in Caravajal's 'revolution'. On December 23rd, 1851, Charles Stillman wrote to James Jewett in New York,"I am sorry to see Jim that you thought me so green to be engaged in the Revolution, any further than talking goes; that I would like to see Carabajal succeed is true, and I am sett down here as a Fillibuster, and a great many I have no doubt think I am big Dog of the yard, knowing all the Mexicans on this Frontier, I have more dealings with them, a great many of my friends are engaged in it, it has not cost me a fraction, neither have I a dollars worth of goods in Mexico."

Another enterprise of Stillman's was transportation of

James Stillman

Charles Stillman, Jr.

merchandise by steamer on the Rio Grande. He was an original partner in Kenedy & Co. which consisted of Mifflin Kenedy, Richard King, Charles Stillman and James O'Donell. Captain Mifflin Kenedy had come to the Rio Grande in 1846 as captain of the *Corvette*, a steamer belonging to the United States Quartermaster's Department, plying the Rio Grande from its mouth to Camargo. *Corvette* had been built in Pittsburgh and Kenedy had brought her down the Ohio and Mississippi and from there to Brownsville. In 1847 his pilot was Richard King, a young man who had been born in Orange County, New York, on July 10, 1825, according to the Memoirs of Col. Ford. Kenedy was probably not much older. James O'Donell's estate sold out to Mifflin Kenedy in 1855. The firm very profitably monopolized the shipping on the Rio Grande for two decades.

The company's steamers engaged in the trade touched only at ports on the Texan side of the river so that they could be registered as coast-wise vessels not engaged in foreign trade. The goods destined for the Mexican side were then carried across the river by ferry. All the partners shared equally. In 1855 each received a dividend of $2,397.72. Kenedy and King each commanded steamers on the river for many years. At the start of steamboat traffic on the Rio Grande, M. Kenedy & Co. employed steamers bought from the United States Government at the close of the War with Mexico, but by 1850 two new steamers, *Grampus* of 500 tons and *Comanche* of 200 tons, were built for the partnership at Pittsburgh and delivered by way of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The larger vessel was intended to make the run from Brazos de Santiago to the mouth of the Rio Grande and up to Brownsville, the smaller *Comanche* from Brownsville to Roma, which was as far up the river as such

vessels could ply. It can with reasonable assurance be assumed that Stillman and O'Donell supplied the bulk of the necessary capital and King and Kenedy took charge of the actual operation of the boats. At first the captains conducted all business on board their steamers but toward the close of the decade the company established permanent offices in Brownsville for booking passengers and freight. Kenedy gave up captaining his steamer to take over this office and King soon thereafter retired to his ranch at Santa Gertrudis, the first of the famous King ranches.

On one occasion, when formidable rivals, José San Roman and John Young, former partner of Stillman's, appeared in the fall of 1855, operating the *Swan* and *Guadaloupe*, the partnership bought them out in 1857, paying $20,000 for the boats and giving the two owners a one-eighth interest in M. Kenedy & Co. At this time the company was operating *Grampus Number Two*, *Ranchero*, and *Mentoria*. The first two were fine craft costing about $31,500 and $27,500 respectively. *Mentoria* was probably left over from the War with Mexico. These boats made a good profit, *Ranchero* netting $18,821.82 for twenty-one trips between April and December 1855. In 1858 Charles Stillman received $5,734.30 for his share of the earnings of all three steamers between May 1st and October 14th, 1857, from which it can be deduced that the company made a profit of over 50 per cent during that year. This seems a modest profit for a monopoly, considering the risks, compared to other monopolies of the period. The populace, however, considered that there were 'enormous overcharges' on the 'noble river steamers' as a correspondent in the *Nueces Valley* said in 1858. Little could be done about it, however, since the river steamers could always underbid overland transportation and still charge

high prices. The Civil War put an end to the monopoly when the Northern troops occupied the left bank of the Rio Grande.

In 1855 Stillman held half interest in the firm of Woodhouse and North, general merchants, his partners being his nephew Frank S. North and Humphrey E. Woodhouse. Both men had formerly worked as Stillman's clerks at $800 a year, his nephew living with Stillman board free. The partnership was formed at that time as Charles Stillman was "intending in a measure to retire from business and devote my time to my private affairs" as he wrote his attorney in 1860 in regard to a trumped-up suit by Woodhouse against the firm for undistributed profits. Retirement to his ranches was his perennial but unrealized dream.

On October 23rd, 1857, when Charles Stillman was still in the North where he went each summer, a tremendous explosion followed by fire broke out in the most important business block in Brownsville bounded by Water (now Levee) Street and Elizabeth, 12th and 13th Streets, where Stillman, Belden and Galvan had their business establishments. It apparently started in Galvan's store where he had stored ninety-five kegs of powder against the law, passed just one year before to the day, the ordinance forbidding the storing of more than one keg of explosives in this section of the City, although the *Nueces Valley* in its issue of October 31st, 1857, said that the fire originated in the commercial house of Charles Stillman on the corner of Water and Elizabeth Streets and spread south. The explosion shook houses for miles around and even unbolted doors in Matamoros across the river. Five or six lives were lost, among them that of Frank North"for many years of the house of Stillman"—"A large amount of specie was in Mr. Stillman's

establishment, a considerable part of which was lost and stolen while being removed. The whole damage is estimated at $25,000. The fire had not ceased when the mail carrier left." Charles later wrote his wife that his nephew and partner had been killed in taking care of their property.

The garrison from Fort Brown, helped by water played on the buildings from the river steamer *Grampus* by its pumps, got the blaze under control after thirty-five hours and saved the rest of Brownsville. The loss was reckoned at a quarter of a million dollars. Samuel Belden apparently lost nearly everything and never fully recovered for thereafter he worked in Stillman's store, taking charge when Charles was away in the North, although the latter complained in a letter to his wife that Belden was old and slow. Eighteen hundred and fifty seven was a disastrous year for both Brownsville and Charles Stillman; in December a hurricane hit the town and blew down one-third of Stillman's store.

By the end of 1859 Charles Stillman had become a very rich man along with several others in Brownsville. Among these were one Spaniard, José San Ramon, Humphrey E. Woodhouse, Jeremiah Galvan, Robert King and Mifflin Kenedy, all of them at one time or another associated with Stillman in business enterprises. In 1858 the only bank in the region of the lower Rio Grande, the branch bank at Brownsville of the Commercial and Agricultural Bank of Galveston, was closed and in 1859 the rich merchants just mentioned became private bankers and refused credit facilities to most of the smaller importers and traders, thus forcing them to move elsewhere and increasing the bulk of business done by these favored few.

Charles Stillman and
Elizabeth Pamela Stillman
in the 1870's

The Stillman Ranches

From his personal letters, it is apparent that while for most of his active years Stillman was engrossed in his business interests, his real enjoyment came from living an outdoor frontier life, riding fifty miles or more a day, sleeping in the open wrapped only in a buffalo robe—the invigorating life on his vast ranches, of which he refers to five.

He and Judge R. D. Love were jointly interested in a stock farm as early as 1847, but his first ranch was probably La Jarrita within a day's ride from Brownsville. Writing from there in September 1853 he says,"The weather was stormy and of course I did not enjoy my trip as usual; though in health I feel much better, rough treatment with abundance of mud and water renovates the system after months of confinement . . . Around the lake were feeding 1,000 sheep all with lambs less than a week old. I would like to have had Jimmy to see the sight." In 1851 he owned land which he had bought some time before on the Nueces River and on the Guadaloupe River. The former became the rancho known as Los Laureles in which some years later his brother Cornelius Stillman acquired a substantial interest. In June 1853 he bought the Santa Rosa which was about fifty miles from Brownsville. The registered brand of the Santa Rosa was a 'Media Luna' or half moon. A portion of Santa Rosa was later sold to Hale and Parker, who valued it at $50,000 in 1872, the remainder was sold by his descendants in the 1930's. In 1859 Charles Stillman, during the Cortina raids in Cameron County, lost from this ranch alone over six hundred horned cattle, four hundred and fifty mares, seventy 'gentle' horses and various other livestock.

November 3rd, 1853, he wrote,"I leave tomorrow for the

Nueces and the Guadaloupe river. I now for the first time am about to examine our property on the Guadaloupe. I may prefer that location to any other . . . in the neighborhood of our land on the Guadaloupe it has been perfectly healthy. If half what they say of the place is true I may become enchanted with it. . . . I shall probably be detained at Jarrita one day, and three days after I am at Gregory's place [Los Laureles] where I shall spend several days and if I have that tract surveyed it will take me full two weeks, from there one day to Loves, from him it is hard to say when we get away but I shall try to persuade him to go on to Guadaloupe with me, from Love's to the Guadaloupe it will probably take us three days."

On March 1st, 1854, he wrote,"The Rheumatism has annoyed me considerable of late. . . . When I came to knock about on horse back and sleep on the ground I found that I am not what I have been. Old age will have its way. [He was forty-four years of age.] I dislike to leave my Rancho for so long a time, it takes the lead of any on this River. How I should like to take Jimmy there a month hence and see the Lambs, young Mules and Colts, he would forget snow and sleigh rides. After all a farmer's is a life of contentment and happiness and if my health is spared me for ten years I have for my Boy the finest one in this state or these United States." The ranch on the Guadaloupe, which seems to have had no other name, vied with Los Laureles on the Nueces in importance. It was seven miles below Victoria, between there and Port Lavaca. It was to here that Charles' brother Cornelius came in 1859. At first Cornelius helped to manage the place as best he could, handicapped as he was by lack of the Spanish language and unfamiliarity with the customs. Even so, Charles considered

him of great value. Later he acquired a half interest in the ranch. Perhaps he bought out Robert Clark who had a half interest in the ranch in 1857. Clark and Charles Stillman had each put in $5,000; Stillman threw in the land and Clark provided his managerial services. They shared equally in the profits.

On February 1st, 1859, Charles wrote his wife: "I sleep in my Buffalo Robe, *it is not for show off* [this was in reproof of her extravagance in spending $32 for furs] it answers for a mattress either in the store [where Charles was sleeping in Brownsville] or in the field, in front of one of the large doors leading into the yard and I enjoy every breath of fresh air and when the dawn breaks, the light wakes me up and I am up and feel fresh as a lark without his musical powers .... Cornelius is here. He landed at Indianola, visited Mr. Clark, was delighted with my place on the Guadaloupe which I selected for my residence long before I made your acquaintance. I have induced Cornelius to remain with me for a certain compensation." In March 1855 he had written, "Love joined me and we went on to the Guadaloupe, I found my land there all it had been represented, one of the finest leagues on the river, the largest oak trees I ever saw on it—an old lady who has been living on it for about thirteen years has about ten acres under fence, covered with fruit trees, full 1,000 peach trees producing abundant fruit."

His rancho at Los Laureles on a blunt point of land had 50,000 acres of grassland. It lay between the Nueces River on the west and Laguna Madre on the southeast, some twenty-three miles southerly from Corpus Christi, Texas. From the Lagoon the workers at Los Laureles were able to collect salt for the market with a daily production in 1861 of three thousand bushels. The salt operations continued

under Cornelius Stillman throughout the Civil War. In 1862 there were twelve thousand head of cattle at Los Laureles.

In April 1853 he wrote from Corpus Christi, "We have something to occupy us in running down the Deer and chacing the wild horses which you daily see in droves of thirty upwards to hundreds. The sight is grand." In February 1857 he wrote his wife, "say to Jimmy that I am raising a fine Bull Dog pup which will whip all the dogs on Staten Island but I want him to run with my pack of hounds to assist them in their fights with panthers and wild hogs." Later in an exuberant letter to his seven-year-old Jimmy, "Tomorrow I start on a pleasant though lonesome trip, how pleasant it would be to have your company and I know you would be delighted, I go in my little wagon with two pairs of mules and the Boys mounted on horses, each one takes an extra horse; and we fly, I shall visit our different Ranches and take a look at all of the stock, it is very interesting to see one or two hundred young Colts playing on our green prairies, or as many little calves in their pens, running after each other as I have seen you and Bell."

From the ranches near Brownsville the Federal troops helped themselves during the War, taking much livestock. Cornelius Stillman on behalf of himself and Charles whom he represented, as Charles was in Matamoros during much of the War, rendered the United States a bill in 1863 for $30,000 made up of:

660 cattle at $15.00	$9,900.00
16 stallions at $100.00	1,600.00
130 mules at $50.00	6,500.00
115 gentle horses at $60.00	6,900.00
220 mares at $20.00	5,200.00
	$30,100.00

Edith Raymond Stillman and her mother in 1873

Isabel Goodrich Stillman

In November 1857 Charles Stillman returned from summering in the North, on the schooner *Florence*. In her enrollment, May 4th, 1858, in the registry at Point Isabel, Texas, Stillman & Co. of Brownsville were listed as half owners with Humphrey E. Woodhouse, partner of Stillman since 1855, and John Felter each having a quarter interest. James H. Woodhouse, a relative of Humphrey, was the Master. The schooner of two hundred tons burden, built in 1855, was one hundred and two feet eight inches long, twenty-six and a half feet beam and she drew eight feet three inches. In January 1859 Charles Stillman was registered as the sole owner, Robert Mount being her Master. In June 1860 he sold the schooner in New York. This was the vessel to which Charles and his wife referred as 'the yacht'.

The War Years

With the opening of the War of Southern Secession, the lower Rio Grande Valley underwent a boom of prosperity similar to that it had experienced in the Mexican War fifteen years before. A tremendous trade in cotton passed through Matamoros, opposite Brownsville, and Matamoros furnished the South with food, clothing and materials of war on a specie payment basis. Naturally Charles Stillman, who considered himself a Texan, profited by this boom.

Just before the war Matamoros was moribund; large houses could be rented for ten dollars a month. During the war the hitherto quaint old Mexican town, in which Stillman owned much property, became a busy commercial port. House rents became exorbitant. It was hot, dirty and full of fleas, a place where only the opportunity for making great profits could induce an American to stay. To this place in

1863 Charles Stillman removed when the Federal troops had occupied Brownsville. No longer could he make summer journeys to the North without having all his southern properties confiscated by the Confederacy as a Northern sympathizer. For the whole period of the War he saw no member of his immediate family but remained in Texas and Matamoros to protect his interests. Although he was Southern in his sympathies he did not approve of secession. He wrote his wife in August 1861 "I still love our whole country, though I feel that the Northern people are the most unworthy portion." He thought the Yankees were 'haughty and domineering' and repeatedly castigated the 'abolishing fanatics'.

By July 1861, three months after the opening of hostilities, he had sent almost all his goods into Mexico and transferred his river steamers to Mexican registry. Whereas before they had made port only at towns on the Texan side of the Rio Grande, they thereafter touched only at places on the Mexican side. His means of communication with the North was mainly via Mexico, to Havana and then to New York. No mail, of course, could come overland without running the blockade. By April 1863 he was living at Matamoros although the Federal troops did not move into Brownsville until November 6th, 1863. The Confederates had abandoned Brownsville on October 30th, setting fire to the town and over a thousand bales of cotton that had not been sent to the Mexican side of the river. Stillman had already sent across the river all he "wished or cared to save," so, as he says, he could calmly survey the "horried seen" and "remain to help and assist others to escape and to extinguish the flames." Only part of the city was burnt and Charles Stillman lost no property. He says he was the last resident of Browns-

ville to leave, at midnight of November 5th. Although the Confederate troops reoccupied Brownsville by the summer of 1864, Stillman preferred to remain at Matamoros to which his business interests had been transferred.

Cotton being such an important necessity for the South as well as being so integral a part of its economy, the Confederate government was of course anxious for cotton to be grown and for it to find a market. The United States government was trying to suppress the rebellion by throttling all commerce and blockading all southern ports, prohibiting both exports and imports. The part that Stillman played in this very strategic situation is most interesting. The United States government kept gunboats in the Rio Grande to throttle Confederate trade, but at the same time was much concerned about its position before the world. It did not, for example, feel it could confiscate ships owned by Texas citizens after they had once been transferred to Mexican registry. Furthermore, even though the Federal gunboats in the Rio Grande were there ostensibly to block all trade, they would not interfere with vessels under foreign registry that were taking goods down the river. There has been a suggestion on the part of old-time Brownsville residents that the United States government did not make strenuous efforts to prevent the shipment of cotton down the Rio Grande, for it was fearful of the effect on the English of cutting off entirely the shipments of cotton for the English mills. In any event, Stillman carried on a most active trade in cotton during the Civil War. He would buy the cotton grown in Texas and other southern states, put it on lighters in the river, and then load the cotton from the lighters on to ships anchored in the river—ships of foreign registry. He ran great risk in doing this because there were Yankee gun-

boats in the river that were there for the purpose of preventing the cotton from reaching the ships. However, Stillman was a bold and resourceful man and considerable quantities of cotton found their way to England and other foreign ports as a result of his efforts. Stillman would of course have to pay for the cotton when he bought it in the Confederate States. It was sold when it reached Liverpool or some other cotton market and the money was credited to him there and then transferred to his account in New York City where his wife and children were living, dependent upon his support. A glimpse of the hazards is reflected in this postscript to a letter written by Stillman to Captain King, on February 25, 1862: "Yesterday we were all in great glee. Kenedy saw a hundred thousand in his vaults, twelve vessel reported having arrived in the offing, with a prospect of shipping 20,000 bales of cotton at $5. per bale $100,000. upwards freight, would repay running expenses, such was our imaginations, evening set in, a beautiful one, when up comes an other courier announcing the arrival of one of Lincoln sloops of War the Portsmouth of 22 guns, a permanent blockade undoubtedly. The Matamoros was at the Mouth, with a full cargo for the English Propeller. The Mustang had left that morning with a full load of cotton. The Matamoros retreated back to Cobb's Rancho and is waiting orders, this knocks us, cotton and all. Sustret will not allow the Matamoros to go out under any colours I reckon, as the Matamoros could inflict greater injury on our coast than any vessel that Lincoln has in his fleet, and I would not be surprised to see a burnt offering made of her yet, for the good of our country, you see, *all is vanity except cows and Mares, a Blockader cannot prevent them from having calfs and colts*."

Bessie Gray Stillman in 1883 (*painting by Abbott Thayer*)

During the turbulent Civil War years, Stillman took great pains to cover his operations both in New York and on the Rio Grande under the cloak of anonymity. In the end personal letters to him from his New York partners and his agent there were addressed to him in the name of a close friend in Mexico, Joseph Morrell of Monterrey. This was not only because he was naturally cautious but also largely on account of the old suit that Mussina was prosecuting, or as Stillman thought of it, persecuting him, in New York. This was the Brownsville Company suit started in 1851, to obtain heavy compensation for the Mussina interest in that company. Stillman apparently feared that in the event that an unfavorable judgment was rendered, all property in his name might be seized.

Throughout the war Stillman was closely allied with the New York firm of Smith and Dunning, the firm name of James T. Smith's mercantile house, commission merchants and ship brokers. After the war this became Smith, Dunning and Stillman and then Smith, Woodward and Stillman.

Before the war Stillman owned an interest, usually the controlling one, in a number of vessels plying on the Rio Grande, to Europe and New York and elsewhere. In the *Emma Dean*, for instance, his interest was seven-sixteenths and his agent Donahue, who turned out to be a drunkard, had a one-sixteenth interest. After the war began he found it advisable to buy two vessels of his own which he could control and direct as he wished for which Smith acted as broker. These shipping interests were turned over to William Stewart, an English merchant in whose name British registry was secured, Smith holding a power of attorney for the operation of the vessels.

The Last Years

During the summer of 1864 Charles' right arm became 'slightly paralized'. He never fully recovered from this paralysis. In April 1865 with the war coming to an end and suffering poor health, he felt that a sea voyage would be beneficial. He sailed for Liverpool and from there on June 24th he took ship for New York in the *R. A. Hearn* under British registry, which had brought him to Liverpool. On his journey to New York he went as supercargo so that his name would not appear as a passenger. He arrived in New York late in July and rejoined his family, from whom he had been separated for seven years, at their summer house at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson.

Before leaving Matamoros he had settled most of his mercantile affairs, selling his properties and dissolving his many and diverse partnerships but he still retained his interest in Los Laureles under the management of his brother Cornelius who remained until the ranch was sold to Mifflin Kenedy in 1868. In claims for losses from border raiders, who operated almost with impunity in the years immediately following the war, and drove cattle unmolested across the Rio Grande to Mexico, Cornelius Stillman asserted that five thousand head of cattle had been stolen thus between 1866 and 1868. Charles Stillman also retained an interest in King, Kenedy and Company which owned and operated the steamers on the Rio Grande. In 1866 when he had retired to New York the firm was composed of Robert King, Mifflin Kenedy, Robert Dalzell, Joseph Cooper, Jeremiah Galvan, Francisco Yturria and Artemus Brown. The latter three had been closely associated with Stillman and prob-

ably represented him. King, Kenedy and Company finally sold their transportation interests in 1874 to the newly formed Rio Grande Railroad Company. This was probably because all the attention of King and Kenedy was by that time absorbed in ranching.

On December 24th, 1866, an indenture was entered into by Charles Stillman "now of the City of New York," Samuel A. Belden of the City of Brownsville and William C. Hale (who had for some years been their attorney) of the City of New Orleans, reciting that each owned an undivided one-third part of the town tract of Brownsville and adjacent land, theretofore conveyed by Elisha Basse, Robert Hurd and Mifflin Kenedy to Charles Stillman and Samuel A. Belden, including rights of ferriage and wharfage. It was agreed that, on the death of a party, control should remain with the survivors but the deceased's estate should have its right to one-third of the profits. The survivors however would have the right to buy out the decedent's estate by paying $15,000 in cash within three months. The instrument was recorded, September 20th, 1871. Hale reconveyed his third to Stillman, May 14th, 1874, in a deed that was not recorded until after both were dead, Hale having died January 8th, 1876.

Of Charles Stillman's life we know little after 1866, because, after his rejoining his wife and children, his personal letters ceased as did most of his business correspondence. He remained a partner of Smith, Woodward and Stillman, cotton-brokers, but he was an ailing man, and by 1872, the year his last child was born, he had turned over all his business by powers of attorney to his eldest son, James, who was but twenty-two years of age and who succeeded him in the

firm of Smith, Woodward and Stillman. We know that with their younger children the Stillmans spent several winters in Charleston, South Carolina.

In his last years he felt an alien in the North and pined for the warmth of the 'lands of the Rio Grande'. Captains of his schooners, sailing between New York and Brazos de Santiago, were instructed to stow all unused cargo space on board with ebony chunks from the steamboat wood-lots so that the aging 'Don Carlos' might enjoy the stored energy of the Rio Grande sunshine in the cold climate in which he was to end his days. Another chance glimpse of the old man comes from family tradition: on Fifth Avenue, with one of his children, he saw a carriage pass drawn by a team of splendid horses. He pointed with pride to his brand that they bore, from distant Texas.

At the age of sixty-five Charles Stillman died on December 18th, 1875, in New York City of paralysis, and his funeral was held at his house, 21 West 48th Street. His will, probated in Orange County, New York, and in Cameron County, Texas, was dated March 10th, 1866. It left one-third of his property to his wife and two-thirds to his surviving children on reaching 21 years of age. His executors were his widow and his partners, James Smith and Benjamin Dunning. A codicil signed in April 1871 appointed his son James an executor in the place of Smith and Dunning.

Charles Stillman was an ardent Texan. In 1854 he wrote that Texas was the finest state in the Union. In another letter he says "there is no climate in these United States like Texas." He repeatedly reminded his elder children that they were native Texans. In 1863 he wrote his wife "I only wish you were all here and I would never wish to leave the State." In 1861 "My sympathy is with the South and if I live in

Elizabeth Pamela Stillman in old age
(painting by Clara Francis Stillman)

these States my home will be in this State . . . in fact I never desire to go north again." To his son Jimmy he wrote in April 1861 "I see you have learnt to skate, that will do you no good when you return to your native state, you can exchange them for a good horse Rifle and knife!" He prided himself on his judgment of horses and craved to have more time from his business to ride and drive. Next to ranch life he liked to be at sea, as"There is no corruption on the blue sea."

Charles Stillman's family letters reveal a tender side, and his constant solicitude for his wife and children. In 1853 he wrote to her,"No one is fonder of having his children around him than I am. What do I toil for? My own wants are few, they would not give me a second thought. There is different kinds of love: I love to provide for those who are dependent upon me. It might not be a very expressive way of showing one's affection." To his son, he thus describes a visit to the Morrell family in Monterrey in 1864: "There is a fat boy baby just commencing to walk who is the delight of the whole family. In the yard there is considerable shrubbery and they are all so kind and good that if one of the birds that hatch little ones is missing, all the family feels the loss of the little bird." It is to the children that he oftenest revealed his zest for ranch life. In 1853: "Tell Jimmy not to cry for me. One of these days I will roam with him on his big black horse over the wild prairie." He wrote his wife at length about getting another chihuahua dog, 'Beppo', which he brought to her himself all the way from Mexico to New York, carrying the little creature in his greatcoat pocket.

Curiously enough, it was Wethersfield, Connecticut, founded by an ancestor, peopled by his kinsmen and his

own birthplace, that after his mother's death came to symbolize all he disliked in the North. Perhaps it was to emphasize his identification with Texas during those troubled times that Charles Stillman carped to his wife on the forbidding climate of the North (often mentioning Wethersfield) and harshly criticized the people for their back-biting, softness,"abolishing and fanaticism." He felt himself the forthright frontiersman and, after a visit to Wethersfield, supposes unrepentently that his wife had to"apologize for his uncivil manners."

The photographs taken in his latter years show a softer expression than the daguerreotype at the time of his marriage; melancholy and traces of pain have mellowed the stern features. The portrait that Charles Stillman drew of himself in his letters is a clear and consistent one that leaves the reader with respect. We know from outside evidence that he was unstinting in generosity toward Brownsville, his family, and his relatives, though his own mention of the incidents is rare and almost furtive. He had strong feelings and prejudices, censure came to his lips far more readily than praise; he often showed an awkward tenderness and a wry humor but evidently lacked subtlety, flexibility and graciousness. His eldest son called him a harsh man. Self-reliant, shrewd and commanding, he took deference as his due, found it hard to admit a mistake or to forgive opposition or frailty in others. He had singleness of purpose and vision and the great strength of his limitations. He was, in short, a Puritan to the marrow, and, for all his ardor for the South and her cause, a granite-hewn Yankee.

The Children of Charles Stillman

[*While preparing this book, I have had frequent occasion to recall the four of Charles Stillman's children whom I knew, and to realize that the descendants who have memory of that generation are already far outnumbered by those who lack it. Thus the following memoir is like an attempt to prolong the light of a moving candle shed upon portraits in a dark picture gallery, and it is addressed particularly to my children and our younger cousins.* C. D. S.]

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OUR GRANDFATHER, James Stillman, was the only child of Charles Stillman to marry. His maiden sisters were called collectively, and with playful fondness, 'The Aunties' by my father's generation and ours. Since these ladies lived, moved and acted in unison they can to a considerable degree be described collectively. The Aunties that I knew—Aunt Clara and Aunt Bessie—were in the autumn of life when I remember them, and the same is true of Uncle Charlie. In their younger days they had travelled arduously—climbed in the Alps, toured Spain by horse-drawn coach—danced and ridden horseback, worn bright and frivolous clothes—but that is all hearsay. It was in an afternoon light that I saw them, and I attempt no definitive description but merely a sketch of the Aunties in their essence.

Aunt Edith died as a small child, so even to our parents she was known only through tender legend and from pi-

quant pictures. Her tiny coral beads exist as a poignant souvenir.

The senior aunt of Father's youth had been Aunt Bell. It was to her, he told us, that his father's children took their troubles; it was she who wrote to them at school, planned their festivities, and to her were addressed their letters of thanks, whereas during her lifetime Aunt Clara and Aunt Bessie remained in the background. He spoke of Aunt Bell as 'the family saint', adored by old and young, and told of the severe blow that her sudden death at forty-two years had been to them all. Each sister stepped into the foreground as her turn came. When my generation were children, Aunt Clara had assumed the leadership and it was only in the ten years after Aunt Clara's death in 1925 that Aunt Bessie emerged for us as a distinct personality.

I will dwell on Grandfather only briefly. He is remembered more clearly by cousins senior to me. His biography has been published and he appears in a number of the memoirs of his time. He lived in Europe during my first, and his last, eleven years, returning to America on occasional visits and when he knew that his heart condition was fatal. To us children the grandeur and impersonality of his houses were oppressive; it is in their tall dim rooms that I most recall his slight figure, moving slowly in an aura of power and impending death. The chilling reserve of his manner was legendary, and even a child knew how it could blight an adult. Yet as a family friend recently recalled to me, "He had a gay side and a charming smile that he kept for children and the few people he felt were disinterested." He would tease solemnly; he asked me how many times I had read the Bible through. In his last winter, 1917–18, we were not allowed to tire him or to take liberties, but we were not

overawed by him. I assumed that all grandfathers had fought in the Civil War, and asked him about his experiences. His reply was disappointing: "When I was a little older than you are, I was skating on a pond at Sing Sing and saw troops marching by on the way to New York." The last time my brother and I saw Grandfather he drilled us gravely from his bed, returning our farewell salutes.

Uncle Charlie seemed benign but detached; no doubt an elderly bachelor was bored by children at the interminable Sunday afternoon dinners that our parents exchanged with the Aunties, for by the time I had reached my twenties he had become attentive and companionable. He spent much time at his clubs; a view we often had of him was on Fifth Avenue, slightly stooped, wearing an old-fashioned top-hat and punctuating his stride with the swing of his walking-stick. All summer he played golf and expertly, up to the time of his death. He had excelled at billiards and as a wing shot, and before our day had been an ardent horseman and yachtsman. He had graduated in 1882 from Yale College. In 1923 he gave to that University the James Raymond Goodrich Scholarships Fund in memory of his uncle, of the Class of 1853. Uncle Charlie had belonged to the Seventh Regiment, Company K, which gave him a certain martial lustre in our eyes.

We as children felt that Uncle Charlie failed to assert his masculine rights because his elder sister carved the roast from the head of the table, directed the servants, had her monogram on the silver, and on the panels of the limousine doors. My surmise today is that Uncle Charlie had early made a tacit agreement with his sisters that the household was to be their sphere entirely. He thus was assured a comfortable home when he chose to use it and full independence

beyond its walls. Certainly there was no friction, and no question of domination, between these mild and generous sisters and brother.

Children take their relations for granted, and it is only in the twenty-one years since the death of the last of the Aunties that I have come to realize that they were remarkable offspring of remarkable parents. Their lives were private and sheltered to a degree that no one in this country knows today outside of the cloister. It is likely that they had never had a meal in public, except through the exigency of travel. Aunt Clara attained a high degree of proficiency in oil-painting, but not one of her exquisite canvases is signed. They had never drawn a cheque until Grandfather died because he had taken full charge of their finances. Their pew in church—the Incarnation in the Murray Hill district—was between the shadowy side-aisle and the wall. Their benefactions were anonymous, the only exception that I know of is a small inscription on a stone in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine dedicating a clerestory window to the memory of their parents. When they finally bought a new car, they told us with a rueful smile that it was only because the old Pierce Arrow—a tall, lumbering vehicle—drew stares from people on the street.

Although they shrank from any conspicuousness they had no tendency to morbid reclusion. They had always enjoyed a circle of old friends, and half a dozen intimates would pay long, regular visits. Their time was occupied by interests and accomplishments connected with philanthropy and the arts; each sister had chosen a different one which she seriously pursued. Aunt Clara, a pupil of Abbott Thayer, has left a number of family portraits and flower pieces of high quality. Aunt Bell had a trained voice, Aunt Bessie

Clara Francis Stillman and Bessie Gray Stillman in 1884
(painting by Abbott Thayer)

played the piano beautifully. The zestful letters of their youth tell at length about their drawing-room concerts with their contemporaries. Besides the specialty that each sister practised, a variety of domestic skills busied them as a group, such as sewing, embroidery, canning vegetables, and especially gardening. The flower garden at Cornwall was largely the work of their own hands—a place of winding paths and bright borders with a recessed cedar-grove enclosing a bird bath and tea-house. A rustic summer-house hidden in wisteria, with a wide view of the river, was specially for birthday cakes. Their houses in New York and at Cornwall-on-Hudson were handsome comfortable dwellings that made no concession to fashion, and little to modern convenience, full of objects acquired in Europe mixed happily with inherited furniture.

The Aunties dressed quietly—we children thought sombrely, believing that they were always in some degree of mourning—yet to a discriminating eye their appearance was memorable. They were erect and lissome, with a regal carriage and gait; of intermediate coloring, with a sweet and pensive gravity of expression. I thought Aunt Bessie the more beautiful of the two because she smiled more readily than Aunt Clara, and her nose was less acquiline, but the resemblance between them was greater than the difference. Their voices were soft and low, and beautifully modulated. At this distance I realize that they were people of a very rare quality, blossoms of an old stock, having the delicate form and elusive fragrance of New England wildflowers.

The Aunties were schooled in kindliness until their whole being was an expression of courtesy. Aunt Bessie once told me that her mother had never in her life been known to make a disparaging or critical remark. Malice, immodesty,

and insincerity were so alien to their natures that not only would they have been incapable of such faults, but such faults would have been unthinkable in their presence. Thus they were incapable of making an awkward gesture, a tactless remark, or a harsh sound; the dignity and propriety of their deportment reflected the grace that glowed within. For all that they were shy and retiring there was no moral timidity or uncertainty about them. Their sureness was so perfect as to need no assertion, their serenity complete; each aunt was unconscious of self because she was magnificently herself.

This integrity and largeness of nature had not been achieved without self-discipline, or simply by ignoring the unpleasant: Aunt Clara once said, for instance, that her own major struggles had been against pride, parsimony, and secretiveness. If the cruder temptations were obviated by the many barriers that sheltered maiden ladies of their generation, who can say that they would have profited by exposure to the harsh and sordid? Their gentle loveliness was the result of keeping steadfastly turned toward the light, of unwavering obedience to the injunction"Whatsoever things are pure and lovely and of good report—think on these things."

A family that can produce such people as Aunt Clara and Aunt Bessie should prize its heritage: it was right that their brother's children should love and venerate their aunts, bringing their children up to do so in their turn. As the memory of them fades, we of today and tomorrow will do well if we can pass on the Aunties' standards and qualities, pondering the piety that they had attained to in their youth and that in age bestowed its blessing.

APPENDIX I

The Ancestry of Charles Stillman and his Wife

and insincerity were so alien to their natures that not only would they have been incapable of such faults, but such faults would have been unthinkable in their presence. Thus they were incapable of making an awkward gesture, a tactless remark, or a harsh sound; the dignity and propriety of their deportment reflected the grace that glowed within. For all that they were shy and retiring there was no moral timidity or uncertainty about them. Their sureness was so perfect as to need no assertion, their serenity complete; each aunt was unconscious of self because she was magnificently herself.

This integrity and largeness of nature had not been achieved without self-discipline, or simply by ignoring the unpleasant: Aunt Clara once said, for instance, that her own major struggles had been against pride, parsimony, and secretiveness. If the cruder temptations were obviated by the many barriers that sheltered maiden ladies of their generation, who can say that they would have profited by exposure to the harsh and sordid? Their gentle loveliness was the result of keeping steadfastly turned toward the light, of unwavering obedience to the injunction "Whatsoever things are pure and lovely and of good report—think on these things."

A family that can produce such people as Aunt Clara and Aunt Bessie should prize its heritage: it was right that their brother's children should love and venerate their aunts, bringing their children up to do so in their turn. As the memory of them fades, we of today and tomorrow will do well if we can pass on the Aunties' standards and qualities, pondering the piety that they had attained to in their youth and that in age bestowed its blessing.

Charles and
Elizabeth STILLMAN
were married on 17 August 1849
in Wethersfield, Connecticut.
Their children were

1. James STILLMAN,*
born 9 June 1850 in Brownsville, Texas; died 15 March 1918 in New York City. On 14 June 1871 in New York City he married Sarah Elizabeth RUMRILL, daughter of Alexander and Mary (ALVORD) RUMRILL. She was born and died in New York City, 7 February 1853–28 November 1926. (Their descendants are the subject of Appendix II.)

2. Isabel†Goodrich STILLMAN,
born 22 September 1852 in Brownsville, Texas; died 16 August 1894, New York City; unmarried.

3. Clara Francis STILLMAN,
born 20 March 1855, Hartford, Connecticut; died 15 April 1925, New York City; unmarried.

4. Charles STILLMAN, (jun^{r}),
born 22 May 1856 Port Richmond, S.I. New York; died 15 November 1933, New York City; unmarried.

5. Bessie Gray STILLMAN,
born 13 April 1860 New York City; died 22 May 1935, New York City; unmarried.

6. Edith Raymond STILLMAN,
born 7 August 1872 Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York, died 10 June 1874 New York City.

* *Christened 'James Jewett', he dropped the second name in early manhood.*

† *The baptismal record has 'Elizabeth', but the equivalent 'Isabel' was always used.*

APPENDIX II

The Descendants of Charles Stillman

The children of Charles and Elizabeth Pamela (Goodrich) Stillman were:

*1. James Stillman
born: 9 June 1850, Brownsville, Texas

2. Isabel (christened Elizabeth) Goodrich Stillman
born: 22 September 1852, Brownsville, Texas
died: unmarried, 16 August 1894, New York City

3. Clara Francis Stillman
born: 20 March 1855, Hartford, Connecticut
died: unmarried, 15 April 1925, New York City

4. Charles Stillman, Jr.
born: 22 May 1856, Port Richmond, Staten Island, N.Y.
died: unmarried, 15 November 1933, New York City

5. Bessie Gray Stillman
born: 13 April 1860, New York City
died: unmarried, 22 May 1935, New York City

6. Edith Raymond Stillman
born: 7 August 1872, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York
died: unmarried, 10 June 1874, New York City

Their graves are all at Woodlawn Cemetery with their parents'.

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*In this table an asterisk in front of a name indicates that the descendants of that person will be given in full in a later portion of the table.

First Generation

1. James (christened James Jewett) Stillman
born: 9 June 1850, Brownsville, Texas
died: 15 March 1918, New York City
married: 14 June 1871, New York City
Sarah Elizabeth Rumrill, born 7 February 1853, New York City; died 28 November 1925, New York City; daughter of Alexander and Mary (Alvord) Rumrill

CHILDREN:

*7. Sarah Elizabeth (Elsie) Stillman, born 7 March 1872
*8. James Alexander Stillman, born 18 August 1873
*9. Isabel Goodrich Stillman, born 29 April 1876
*10. Charles Chauncey Stillman, born 29 September 1877
*11. Ernest Goodrich Stillman, born 14 July 1884

Second Generation

7. Sarah Elizabeth Stillman (later known as Sarah Elsie and then as Elsie)
born: 7 March 1872, New York City
died: 17 May 1935, Greenwich, Connecticut
married: 21 November 1895, New York City
William Goodsell Rockefeller, born 21 May 1870, New York City; died 30 November 1922, New York City; son of William and Almira Geraldine (Goodsell) Rockefeller

CHILDREN:

*12. William Avery Rockefeller, born 8 August 1896
*13. Godfrey Stillman Rockefeller, born 1 May 1899
*14. James Stillman Rockefeller, born 8 June 1902
*15. John Sterling Rockefeller, born 28 October 1904
*16. Almira Geraldine Rockefeller, born 28 December 1907

8. James Alexander Stillman
born: 18 August 1873, New York City
died: 12 January 1944, New York City

married: 8 June 1901, New York City
Anne Urquhart Potter, born 14 November 1879, New York City; daughter of James Brown and Cora (Urquhart) Potter

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

*17. Anne Stillman, born 28 February 1902
*18. James Stillman, born 24 January 1904
19. Alexander Stillman, born 29 September 1911. Unmarried 1956
*20. Guy Stillman, born 7 November 1918

9. Isabel Goodrich Stillman
born: 29 April 1876, New York City
died: 22 August 1935, Greenwich, Connecticut
married: 23 April 1901, New York City
Percy Avery Rockefeller, born 27 February 1878, New York City; died 25 September 1934, New York City; son of William and Almira Geraldine (Goodsell) Rockefeller

CHILDREN:

*21. Isabel Rockefeller, born 23 June 1902
*22. Avery Rockefeller, born 12 September 1903
*23. Winifred Rockefeller, born 21 December 1904
*24. Faith Rockefeller, born 30 May 1909
25. Gladys Rockefeller, born 4 July 1910, Greenwich, Connecticut; married 1 September 1937, Baltimore, Maryland, Dudley Field Underhill [born 23 May 1903, San Francisco, California; son of Reuben Lukens and Mary Frances (Field) Underhill]

10. Charles Chauncey Stillman
born: 29 September 1877, Irvington-on-Hudson, New York
died: at sea on S.S. *Aquitania*, 16 August 1926
married: 17 October 1903, Augusta, Maine
Mary Wight, born 27 November 1870, Windsor, Maine; died 24 September 1925, New York City;

daughter of Amos Merrill and Martha Osgood (King) Wight

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

26. Elizabeth Goodrich Stillman, born 27 October 1905; married 27 September 1930, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York, Langbourne Meade Williams, Jr. [born 5 February 1903, Richmond, Virginia; son of Langbourne Meade and Susanna Catherine (Nolting) Williams]
*27. Chauncey Devereux Stillman, born 9 November 1907
28. Eliot Wight Stillman, born 26 April 1909; died 15 November 1928, Seligman, Arizona

11. Ernest Goodrich Stillman
born: 14 July 1884, Newport, Rhode Island
died: 16 December 1949, New York City
married: 7 June 1911, San Francisco, California
Mildred Marguerite Whitney, born 19 August 1890, San Francisco, California; died 21 August 1950, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York; daughter of Calvin Eastman and Fannie (Boruck) Whitney

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

*29. Jane Stillman, born 23 August 1913
30. Calvin Whitney Stillman, born 18 December 1915; married 17 June 1939, Bennington, Vermont, Helen Devore Leigh [born 6 May 1918, Portland, Oregon; daughter of Robert Leigh]
*31. John Sterling Stillman, born 6 September 1918
32. Timothy Goodrich Stillman, born 3 May 1922; married 5 April 1944, Denver, Colorado, Barbara Hope Baker [born 27 June 1922, Denver, Colorado; daughter of Dudley F. and Mary R. Baker]
33. Dora Stillman, born 29 June 1927; married August 1950, Jodie Hutchison
*34. Penelope Stillman, born 1 September 1929

Third Generation

12. William Avery Rockefeller
born: 8 August 1896, Tarrytown, New York
married: (I) 9 February 1918, New York City
Florence Lincoln, born 17 January 1897, New York City; daughter of Frederic Walker and Philena (Prentice) Lincoln; divorced
(II) 16 June 1932, Grosse Pointe, Michigan
Mary H. (Hall) Boyer

CHILDREN (*all by first wife and born New York City*):

*35. William Rockefeller, born 9 December 1918
*36. Frederic Lincoln Rockefeller, born 12 July 1921
*37. Elsie Rockefeller, born 4 April 1924

13. Godfrey Stillman Rockefeller
born: 1 May 1899, New York City
married: 26 June 1923, St. Louis, Missouri
Helen Gratz, born 19 March 1900; daughter of Benjamin and Marion (Thompson) Gratz

CHILDREN:

*38. Godfrey Anderson Rockefeller, born 22 May 1924
39. Benjamin Gratz Rockefeller, born 10 January 1926, Albany, New York; died 23 November 1928, Greenwich, Connecticut
*40. Marion Rockefeller, born 22 December 1927
*41. Audrey Rockefeller, born 26 October 1929
42. Lucy Ann Rockefeller, born 22 March 1932, New York City; married 11 June 1955, Greenwich, Connecticut, Alexander Coutts Stewart [born 1 May 1924, Brooklyn, New York; son of Donald Barton and Jean (Coutts) Stewart]
43. Peter Rockefeller, born 1 November 1934, Greenwich, Connecticut; unmarried 1956

14. James Stillman Rockefeller
born: 8 June 1902, New York City

Third Generation [*continued*]

married: 15 April 1925, Cumberland Island, Georgia
Nancy Campbell Sherlock Carnegie, born 15 December 1900, New York City; daughter of Andrew 2nd and Bertha (Sherlock) Carnegie

CHILDREN:

44. James Stillman Rockefeller, Jr., born 7 January 1926, New York City; unmarried 1956
*45. Nancy Sherlock Carnegie Rockefeller, born 9 May 1929
46. Andrew Carnegie Rockefeller, born 9 May 1929, Greenwich, Connecticut; unmarried 1956
47. Georgia Stillman Rockefeller, born 11 October 1933, Greenwich, Connecticut; unmarried 1956

15. John Sterling Rockefeller
born: 28 October 1904, New York City
married: 7 May 1931, New York City
Paula Watjen, born 12 August 1905, Bremen, Germany; daughter of Alexander Wilhelm and Catherine Caroline (Fleitmann) Watjen

CHILDREN (*both born New York City*):

48. Christina Rockefeller, born 8 August 1932; unmarried 1956
49. Paula (Polly) Rockefeller, born 25 July 1937; unmarried 1956

16. Almira Geraldine Rockefeller
born: 28 December 1907, New York City
married: (I) 12 January 1929, Scarsdale, New York
MacRoy Jackson, born 12 February 1876, Dover, Delaware; died 22 January 1944, Lake Wales, Florida; son of Gilder Davis and Sophia (Spencer) Jackson
(II) 5 October 1945, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania
Sam Weston Scott, born 29 June 1895, Seaford, Delaware; died 3 June 1948, Edgemont, Pennsylvania; son of Edward Martin and Lucy Ann (Mitchell) Scott

(III) 16 September 1952, Edgemont, Pennsylvania
Hardie Scott, born 7 June 1907, Cynwyd, Pennsylvania; son of John R. K. and Helen (Hardie) Scott

CHILDREN (*by first husband*):

50. A son, born 9 January 1935, Edgemont, Pennsylvania; died 18 January 1935
51. MacRoy Jackson, Jr., born 1 March 1937, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania; unmarried 1956

17. Ann Stillman
born: 22 February 1902, New York City
married: 18 October 1924, Pleasantville, New York
Harry Pomeroy Davison, born 3 April 1898, Englewood, New Jersey; son of Henry Pomeroy and Katherine (Trubee) Davison

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

*52. Harry Pomeroy Davison, Jr., born 13 December 1926
53. John Davison, born 23 April 1930 (adopted); unmarried 1956
54. James Stillman Davison, born 10 May 1931; unmarried 1956
55. Frances Davison, born 20 April 1935; unmarried 1956
56. Anne Davison, born 30 November 1936; unmarried 1956

18. James Stillman
born: 24 January 1904, New York City
married: (I) 26 July 1927, Grand'Anse, P.Q., Canada
Marie Yvonne Lina Wilson, born 26 July 1908, Grand' Anse, P.Q., Canada; died 10 June 1951, Pleasantville, New York; daughter of John and Elizabeth (Skeen) Wilson
(II) 11 February 1952, Las Vegas, Nevada
Catherine Brown, born 22 September 1923, Dallas, Texas; daughter of Sherman and Elizabeth (Lasenby) Brown

CHILDREN (*by first wife, last three born New York City*):

57. Leanna Stillman, born 23 February 1932, Boston, Massachusetts; married 16 February 1952, Phoenix, Arizona, Arthur Lasenby Brown [born 15 March 1926, Dallas, Texas; son of Sherman and Elizabeth (Lasenby) Brown, brother of her step-mother]
58. James Stillman, Jr., born 31 March 1935; married, June 1956, San Francisco, California, Elizabeth Kirkham
59. Fowler McCormick Stillman, born 12 September 1937
60. Alexander Stillman, born 1 March 1949

CHILDREN (*by second wife, all born New York City*):

61. Valerie Catherine Stillman, born 20 May 1953
62. Richard Brown Stillman, born 1 June 1955

20. Guy Stillman
born: 7 November 1918, New York City
married: 24 August 1938, Dundee, Illinois
Nancy Hall Holbrook, born 3 June 1920, Oak Park, Illinois; daughter of Howard and Helen (Hall) Holbrook

CHILDREN:

63. Alexandra Stillman, born 4 July 1939, Chicago, Illinois
64. Victoria Ann Stillman, born 11 June 1940, Chicago, Illinois
65. Sharee Stillman (girl), born 5 January 1942, Chicago, Illinois
66. Charles Stillman, born 17 May 1946, Phoenix, Arizona
67. Christopher Stillman, born 25 July 1948, Phoenix, Arizona
68. Holbrook Stillman, born 7 June 1951, Phoenix, Arizona

21. Isabel Rockefeller
born: 23 June 1902, Ardsley-on-Hudson, New York
married: 26 September 1925, Greenwich, Connecticut
Frederic Walker Lincoln, Jr., born 15 October 1898,

New York City; son of Frederic Walker and Philena (Prentice) Lincoln and brother of first wife of William Avery Rockefeller (No. 12)

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

*69. Isabel Lincoln, born 5 August 1927
*70. Calista Lincoln, born 11 January 1930
71. Percilla Avery Lincoln, born 15 October 1937; unmarried 1956
72. Florence Philena Lincoln, born 15 January 1940

22. Avery Rockefeller
born: 12 September 1903, Dobbs Ferry, New York
married: 20 September 1923, New York City
Anna Griffith Mark, born 16 January 1906, Chicago, Illinois; daughter of Clayton and Anna (Griffith) Mark

CHILDREN:

*73. Avery Rockefeller, Jr., born 30 August 1924, Colorado Springs, Colorado
*74. Ann Rockefeller, born 7 October 1926, New York City
*75. Joan Rockefeller, born 17 May 1931, New York City

23. Winifred Rockefeller
born: 21 December 1904, New York City
died: 15 March 1951, Greenwich, Connecticut
married: 15 December 1928, New York City
Brooks Emeny, born 29 July 1901, Salem, Ohio; son of Frederick James and Elizabeth Miller (Brooks) Emeny

CHILDREN:

76. Elizabeth Brooks Emeny, born 17 August 1930, New Haven, Connecticut; died 17 July 1935, New Haven, Connecticut
77. Faith Rockefeller Emeny, born 29 May 1932, New Haven, Connecticut; unmarried 1956
78. Winifred Theodate Emeny, born 16 April 1939, Cleveland, Ohio; died 15 March 1951, Greenwich, Conn.

Third Generation [*continued*]

79. Josephine Brooks Emeny, born 29 July 1944, Cleveland, Ohio; died 15 March 1951, Greenwich, Conn.

24. Faith Rockefeller
born: 30 May 1909, Greenwich, Connecticut
married: 7 May 1941, Greenwich, Connecticut
Jean Model, born 26 June 1915, Brussels, Belgium; died 29 May 1955, Princeton, New Jersey; son of Richard and Irma (Franck) Model of Brussels

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

80. Robert Model, born 9 July 1942
81. Jeanette Model, born 4 November 1943
82. Richard Avery Model, born 15 January 1948

27. Chauncey Devereux Stillman
born: 9 November 1907, New York City
married: 21 January 1939, Westbury, Long Island
Theodora Moran Jay, born 14 December 1918, New York City; daughter of DeLancey Kane and Elizabeth Sarah (Morgan) Jay

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

83. Emily Theodora Jay Stillman, born 27 October 1939; died 9 November 1939
84. Elizabeth Jay Stillman, born 2 August 1944
85. Mary Theodora Stillman, born 15 December 1945

29. Jane Stillman
born: 23 August 1913, New York City
married: (I) 5 June 1937, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York
Benjamin Charles Martin; divorced
(II) 26 July 1950, Mt. Desert, Maine
Blaine Lambton Durham, born San Francisco, Calif.

CHILDREN (*by first husband*):

86. Alice (Martin) Durham, born 9 February 1938, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York

87. March (Martin) Durham, born 11 March 1941
88. Stephen Stillman (Martin) Durham, born 11 June 1943
[They have all taken the name of Durham.]

CHILD (*by second husband*):

89. Pamela Goodrich Durham, born 30 December 1951, Warrenton, Virginia

31. John Sterling Stillman
born: 6 September 1918, New York City
married: 26 August 1944, San Francisco, California
Margaret Drinker Riley, born 22 February 1921, Germantown, Pennsylvania; daughter of Woodbridge and Laura (Troth) Riley

CHILDREN:

90. Nathaniel Stillman, born 3 October 1946, New York City
91. Linda Brooks Stillman, born 7 November 1948, New York City
92. John Whitney Stillman, born 25 January 1952, Washington, D. C.

34. Penelope Stillman
born: 1 September 1929, New York City
married: (I) 1 September 1950
Addison Dale McMullan, born 7 July 1929, Cambridge, Massachusetts; son of Richard D. and Margaret (Hastings) McMullan; divorced
(II) 28 November 1954, New York City
Richard Cushing Paine, Jr., born 27 December 1928, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts; son of Richard Cushing and Ellen Peabody (Eliot) Paine

CHILDREN (*by first husband*):

93. Elizabeth McMullan, born 7 July 1950
94. Andrew McMullan, born 7 February 1952

Fourth Generation

35. William Rockefeller
born: 4 December 1918, New York City
married: 3 July 1947, Pelham Manor, New York
Mary Duncan Gillett, born 26 September 1921, Pelham Manor, New York; daughter of William V. K. and Harriet (Duncan) Gillett

CHILDREN (*all born New Rochelle, New York*):

95. Mary Gillett Rockefeller, born 12 April 1948
96. Edith McKee Rockefeller, born 30 May 1950
97. Sarah Stillman Rockefeller, born 14 June 1953

36. Frederic Lincoln Rockefeller
born: 12 July 1921, New York City
married: 6 September 1947, Greenwich, Connecticut
Janet Buffinton, born 8 December 1926, Albany, New York; daughter of Eliot and Janet (Shearson) Buffinton

CHILDREN:

98. June Rockefeller, born 27 October 1948, Des Moines, Iowa
99. Cynthia Rockefeller, born 7 June 1951, Des Moines, Iowa
100. Elsie Rockefeller, born 17 April 1953, Mt. Kisco, New York
101. Frederic Lincoln Rockefeller, Jr., born 27 August 1955, Boston, Massachusetts

37. Elsie Rockefeller
born: 4 April 1924, New York City
married: 19 September 1946, Greenwich, Connecticut
Edward William Proxmire, son of Dr. and Mrs. Theodore Stanley Proxmire

CHILDREN:

102. Theodore Stanley Proxmire II, born 6 October 1947
103. Elsie Stillman Proxmire, born 13 April 1949

38. Godfrey Anderson Rockefeller
born: 22 May 1924, Albany, New York
married: 18 September 1948, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania
Constance Vauclain Hamilton, born 8 June 1928, New York City; daughter of William Carrington and Constance Marshall (Vauclain) Hamilton

CHILDREN (*both born Minneapolis, Minnesota*):

104. Judith Stillman Rockefeller, born 4 November 1949
105. Godfrey Anderson Rockefeller, Jr., born 20 January 1952

40. Marion Rockefeller
born: 22 December 1927, Albany, New York
married: 29 May 1947, Greenwich, Connecticut, Robert Gregg Stone, Jr., born 21 March 1923, Brookline, Massachusetts; son of Robert Gregg and Bertha Lee (Barnes) Stone

CHILDREN (*all born Greenwich, Connecticut*):

106. Helen Rockefeller Stone, born 28 September 1949
107. Catherine Morton Stone, born 8 March 1951
108. Robert Gregg Stone III, born 2 November 1952
109. Lucy Goodsell Stone, born 2 July 1954

41. Audrey Rockefeller
born: 26 October 1929, New York City
married: 28 October 1950, Greenwich, Connecticut
Peter Heyliger Blair, born 17 June 1927, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; son of Lawrence Dilworth and Maxwell Durant (Church) Blair

CHILDREN:

110. Peter Heyliger Blair, Jr., born 4 November 1951, Minneapolis, Minnesota
111. Christopher Blackburn Blair, born 19 June 1953, Greenwich, Connecticut
112. Audrey Alford Blair, born 12 September 1954, Greenwich, Connecticut

Fourth Generation [*continued*]

45. Nancy Sherlock Carnegie Rockefeller
born: 7 January 1927, New York City
married: 29 June 1949, Greenwich, Connecticut
Barclay McFadden, born 21 July 1924, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; son of Barclay and Virginia (Hecksher) McFadden

CHILDREN:

113. Barclay McFadden, Jr., born 30 May 1950, Memphis, Tennessee
114. Andrew Alexander McFadden, born 9 March 1952, Greenwich, Connecticut
115. John McFadden, born 13 September 1953, Memphis, Tennessee

52. Harry Pomeroy Davison, Jr.
born: 13 December 1929, New York City
married: 17 December 1951, Osprey, Florida
Barbara Vilas, born 19 June 1931, Chicago, Illinois; daughter of George and Eva (Hillis) Vilas

CHILDREN (*both born Miami, Florida*):

116. Lani Davison, born 16 November 1953
117. Linda Davison, born 3 April 1955

69. Isabel Lincoln
born: 5 August 1927, New York City
married: 25 June 1951, New York City
Basil Beebe Elmer, Jr., born 26 November 1924, New York City; son of Basil Beebe and Alice Augusta (Haight) Elmer

CHILDREN (*both born New York City*):

118. Isabel Avery Elmer, born 12 February 1953
119. Basil Beebe Elmer, 3rd, born 5 September 1954

70. Calista Lincoln
born: 11 January 1930, New York City

married: 28 June 1952, Greenwich, Connecticut
Henry Upson Harder, born 9 March 1925, New York City; son of Lewis Frank and Gertrude Burbank (Harris) Harder

CHILDREN (*both born Greenwich, Connecticut*):

120. Frederic Walker Lincoln Harder, born 10 July 1953
121. Gertrude Upham Harder, born 8 August 1955

73. Avery Rockefeller, Jr.
born: 30 August 1924, Colorado Springs, Colorado
married: 3 July 1948, Wayzata, Minnesota
Lucia Peavy Ewing, born 28 April 1928, New York City; daughter of Sherman and Mary (Heffelfinger) Ewing

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

122. Mary Rockefeller, born 1 June 1950
123. Avery Rockefeller, III, born 27 December 1951
124. Lucia Rockefeller, born 9 April 1954

74. Ann Rockefeller
born: 7 October 1926, New York City
married: 21 December 1946, Greenwich, Connecticut
Edward Scales Elliman, born 4 March 1923, Rome, Italy; son of Douglas L. and Katherine (Scales) Elliman

CHILDREN (*all born New York City*):

125. Edward Henderson Elliman, born 29 September 1948
126. David Douglas Elliman, born 26 December 1950
127. Christopher Robin Elliman, born 28 April 1952

75. Joan Rockefeller
born: 17 May 1931, New York City
married: 13 June 1952, Greenwich, Connecticut
David Hunter McAlpin IV, born 19 January 1928, New York City; son of David Hunter and Nina W. (Underwood) McAlpin

CHILD:

128. David Mark McAlpin, born 8 May 1955, New York City

APPENDIX III

The Brothers and Sisters of Charles Stillman

Francis Stillman's children, with most of whom Charles Stillman's career was closely connected, were all born at Wethersfield, Connecticut:

1. Mary Robbins Stillman
   born: 8 December 1806
   died: March or April 1855
   married: 8 January 1828
   Elijah North, born 12 December 1781; killed by accident in 1838; their son, Frank S. North, became a partner of Charles Stillman at Brownsville, Texas.

2. Chauncey Stillman
   born: 29 July 1808
   died: 20 December 1859, New York City
   married: 30 December 1841, Cleveland, Ohio
   Elizabeth Ross, born about 1823, living in 1863, daughter of Joshua and Mary (Eayrs) Ross who had come to Cleveland from Boston about 1824. Chauncey Stillman was a ship's captain on the Great Lakes, living in Cleveland for many years. They had a daughter, Louisa, with whose schooling Charles helped financially, and a son, Charles, whom his Uncle Charles had upon his ranch Los Laureles in 1863. The elder Charles supported his brother Chauncey who was infirm in his later years, and then helped to support Chauncey's widow.

3. Charles Stillman
   born: 4 November 1810
   The subject of this sketch.

4. Francis Stillman
born: 9 October 1812
died: 1 August 1819 (drowned)

5. Cornelius Stillman
born: 7 April 1815
died: 26 April 1895, Brooklyn, New York
married: 10 November 1841, Wethersfield, Connecticut
Jane G. Robertson of Wethersfield. He became a joint owner with Charles of his Texas ranch Los Laureles where he remained until 1868 when it was sold to the King interests. His son Robert Stillman, born in Cleveland in 1853, remained in Texas an active rancher. He married, 19 March 1889, Brownsville, Texas, his cousin Katie Elizabeth Case, born 16 March 1862, Jersey City, New Jersey; daughter of Lucius Case and his wife, Elizabeth Sophia Stillman (No. 8, below).

6. Harriet Irwin Stillman
born: 2 June 1817
died: 22 December 1898
married: (I) 27 November 1839
Henry Smith of Hartford
(II) 11 June 1849
Henry Ferre, who died 27 January 1892, aged 85

7. Francis Hanmer Stillman (later known as Frank D. Stillman)
born: 2 June 1820
died: 19 August 1864, Texas
married: 26 March 1851
Augusta Ann May, born about 1830; died 17 April 1854; daughter of Sylvester May of Bridgeport and Wethersfield, Connecticut

8. Elizabeth Sophia Stillman
born: 24 October 1824
died: 29 October 1876, Jersey City, New Jersey
married: 16 December 1846, Hartford, Connecticut
Lucius Case of Hartford, born 16 June 1811, Simsbury, Connecticut; died 21 April 1888, Brownsville, Texas

APPENDIX IV

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page 20, line 22;
page 30, line 26;
page 67, line 6 (column 1).

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